Drought in Andhra Pradesh

304. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of the districts and blocks affected by drought in Andhra Pradesh, during the current year;

(b) whether the State had sought any additional Central assistance in cash and kind in the wake of drought;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken thereon; and

(e) the current status of drought in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) In January, 2002, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had declared 993 out of 1125 mandals in 22 out of 23 districts in the State as drought affected.

(b) to (d) Taking into account the request of the State Government for allocation of foodgrains, 4 lakh MTs of foodgrains were allocated to the State under Food for Work Programme (FFWP) from January, 2002, to March, 2002 and 15 lakh MTs of foodgrains have so far been further allocated to them from April, 2002, under the Special component of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), for generation of additional employment.

(e) According to information supplied by the State Government in May, 2002, 22 out of 23 districts were affected by drought.

Maize production in A.P.

305. DR. DASARI^NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be please'd to state:

(a) the annual production of Maize in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) how it compares with other major maize growing States of the country; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to increase production of Maize in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The year-wise production of maize in Andhra Pradesh during last three years is as under:

SI.No.	Year	Production of Maize (In lakh tonnes)
1.	1998-99	13.830
2.	1999-2000	14.720
3.	2000-2001	14.272

(b) Andhra Pradesh occupied third (3rd) position in maize production after Karnataka and Bihar during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and fourth (4th) position during 2000-2001 after Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in the country.

(c) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme entitled "Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)" is in implementation in all the maize potential districts in the various States in the country, including Andhra Pradesh since 1995-96 with the objective to increase the production and productivity of maize. Under AMDP, assistance is being provided for dissemination of latest technology through Front line and Field Demonstrations on Maize, Demonstrations on Integrated Pest Management (IPM), production of good quality seeds, use of improved farm implements and officers and farmers trainings. Besides, State Government is providing seed subsidy for growing maize under irrigated conditions during Rabi season in place of rice and also promoting maize by shifting from cotton to maize under rainfed conditions.

Drought in M.P.

†306. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has sent a memorandum to the Central Government to tackle the prevailing drought situation in the State;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.